



Urban League of
Springfield

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

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MAURICE POWE
DAVID TRAYNOR

August 22, 2014

Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

Per your request below is a draft summarizing our discussion:

As the President and CEO of the Springfield (Massachusetts) Urban League, I've been privileged to work with community partners, both large and small, that support our mission of empowering minorities, embracing diversity, and securing economic self-reliance. That's why I was happy to learn of the proposed Comcast/Time Warner Cable transaction, which will see one of our most successful partners grow and expand its reach in communities just like ours.

The mission of the Springfield Urban League is to empower African-Americans, other emerging ethnic groups and those who struggle to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power, and civil rights. This requires two things: empowerment of others and support from others.

We empower civic engagement and social justice, economic and workforce development, and educational success. In turn, Comcast empowers us by supporting and sponsoring our various efforts. It has been a vital partner and a robust supporter of our work. Its reach has had a direct impact on the lives of many in Western Massachusetts, especially young people who attend the Urban League's Camp Atwater program.

One such impact is evident in our partnership with Comcast's Internet Essentials program, which offers Internet service for less than \$10 per month to qualified families. It is hard to find a more effective program to bring internet to those young people who depend on access for school work more and more every day. The youth and families we serve have also benefitted from Comcast's Digital Connectors program, Comcast Cares Day, as well as their many scholarship programs and other philanthropic endeavors.



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As a community leader, I can say with full confidence that the Springfield Urban League is in a better position to carry out its core mission because of Comcast's partnership. I look forward to seeing what can be accomplished as a result of the Comcast and Time Warner Cable transaction, and I encourage you to support this proposal.

Henry Thomas
President & CEO



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